

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the title of the invention on page 1, line 2 with the following amended title of the invention:

**CARTRIDGE AND ROD FOR AXIALLY LOADING MEDICATION PUMP PUMP WITH  
AXIAL LOADING**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is being filed concurrently with the following six commonly assigned patent applications: "Syringe Pump Control Systems and Methods" U.S. Application No. 10/086,994, "Child Safety Cap for Syringe Pump" U.S. Application No. 10/086,993, "Insulin Pump Having Missed Meal Bolus Alarm" U.S. Application No. 10/087,460, now U.S. Patent No. 6,744,350, "Programmable Medical Infusion Pump Displaying a Banner" U.S. Application No. 10/087,205, "Programmable Insulin Pump" U.S. Application No. 10/086,641, now U.S. Patent No. 6,852,104 and "Programmable Medical Infusion Pump" U.S. Application No. 10/087,449. The disclosures of these six patent applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Other embodiments can use a microcomputer, or any other type of programmable circuit, in place of the microprocessor. Further possible functions of the processor and other pump components are described and illustrated in the following four commonly assigned co-pending United States patent applications, which were previously incorporated by reference: "Insulin Pump Having Missed Meal Bolus Alarm" U.S. Application No. 10/087,460, now U.S. Patent No. 6,744,350, "Programmable Medical Infusion Pump Displaying a Banner" U.S. Application No. 10/087,205, "Programmable Insulin Pump" U.S. Application No. 10/086,641, now U.S. Patent No. 6,852,104 and "Programmable Medical Infusion Pump" U.S. Application No. 10/087,449.